### BRADLEY STOKE TOWN COUNCIL

**Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee of Bradley Stoke Town Council held at The Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood Road, Bradley Stoke on Monday 17th April 2023 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: Tom Aditya (Chair)

Terri Cullen

Dr Ed He

Franklin Owusu-Antwi

Ben Randles

Andy Ward

Officers: Sharon Petela (Town Clerk)

Phil Francis (Deputy Town Clerk/Activity Centres Manager)

Graham Baker (Youth Development & Participation Worker)

Representatives from: Arts Appreciation Group

Bradley Stoke in Bloom

Bradley Stoke Radio

As the Chair of Leisure, Youth and Amenities, Councillor Tom Aditya was delayed, Councillor Andy Ward proposed that Councillor Ben Randles chair the meeting in the interim, seconded by Councillor Franklin Owusu-Antwi, carried unanimously. Councillor Ben Randles then assumed the chair.

**1 Submissions from the Public**

None

**2 Apologies**

Apologies received from Councillors Roger Avenin, Tony Griffiths and Angela Morey.

**3 Declarations by Members**

None

**4 Announcements by the Chair**

None

**5 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting of the Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee held on 20th February 2023 were proposed by Councillor Franklin Owusu-Antwi, seconded by Councillor Ben Randles. A vote was taken, 3 in favour, 2 abstentions, proposal carried. Minutes were then signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**6 Service Level Agreements, Community Development, Grant Aid and Youth Grant Aid Applications**

**6.1 Service Level Agreements (SLA)**

None

**6.2 Community Development Grant Aid (CDGA)**

**6.2.1 CDGA32 – Bradley Stoke Radio update**

The Chair of the meeting, Councillor Ben Randles invited the representative from the group to address the meeting and they presented the following report:

Spring has truly sprung and the sun is shining! Everyone is beginning to feel the optimism of summer now a long winter is behind us. And that optimism is again growing through Bradley Stoke Radio.

Alice has been out asking the community about their favourite musicals for her programme – while also talking and sharing all things Bradley stoke Radio. And sharing about theatre productions and shows across the area. The old Gits and Hits show came for the Aerospace museum right on our doorstep and a flagship destination for South Glos. Libby from the Brightwell centre has been in talking to Ruth about their fundraising, which has also featured on our social media pages; And also on Steve Shepherds community programme along with the easter egg hunt, and Bingo night. South Glos Hawk and Owl conservation, Paul Golledge had a fascinating interview as did Bristol/ wider area musicians, Barry and Louise Walsh, Nigel Lowndes and Spencer Flay have been featured and interviewed on music programmes as well as local music from Hideaway and Hannah Rae Platt, Poundshop life and with Richard Shepherd featuring in our playout. Alongside the local, we also like to feature other well known artists and Martin Palmer our Eurovision connoisseur, as part of his research and Eurovision 2024 Liverpool build up saw Sam Ryder in Bristol and developed that content into his programming.

We have shared information about Knit and Natter, visited ‘Buddies’ a day service for adults with learning disabilities in Yate, made mosaic birds at the community workshop in Bradley Stoke and continued to promote the community warm spaces. We have also supported many of the above events and more through sharing on our social media page. DAB is creating more opportunities and while we develop these, we are also working with The Willow Brook Centre to launch Bradley Stoke Radio Music playlist @ Willowbrook and hold a ‘launch’ for this with marketing and community development.

We are training and developing a new volunteer who we hope will be visiting even more groups and events in the coming weeks with a couple of new volunteers in the pipeline too. If anyone has a story or an event that we can talk about, share etc. Please do let us know.

Thank you for your continued support – All the above happens because of committed, community minded radio enthusiasts and through the support of the CDG from Bradley Stoke Town Council and other funding to meet all our ongoing costs and expenses.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Community Grant | Expense | Cost | Remainder |
| 30/1/23 £3337.93 |  |  |  |
| 1/2/23 | Accounts | £12 | £3,325.93 |
| 20/2/23 | virgin media | £60 | £3265.93 |
| 27/2/23 | Stickers/marketing | £27.91 | £3238.03 |
| 1/3/23 | Accounts | £12 | £3226.03 |
| 17/3/23 | PPL | £88 | £3138.03 |
| 20/3/23 | Virgin media | £60 | £3078.03 |
| 31/3/23 | Heat/Light | £161.23 | £2916.80 |
| 3/4/23 | PPL | £825.60 | £2091.20 |

The Chair of the meeting, Councillor Ben Randles thanked Bradley Stoke Radio for their report.

*Councillor Tom Aditya arrived at this point in the meeting and assumed the chair*

**6.3 Grant Aid (GA)**

**6.3.1 GA495 – Arts Appreciation Group**

The Chair of Committee, Councillor Tom Aditya invited the representatives from the group to address the meeting. The Arts Appreciation Group have applied for £414 grant aid towards publicity and printing to relaunch the group and also premises hire. The representatives gave the following report:

The Arts Appreciation Group were a thriving group until the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and, since then, the numbers have unfortunately dwindled.

The group is applying for grant funding towards the promotion of a publicity drive, with welcome taster sessions to recruit new members to the group. They are hoping to hold the publicity campaign from June to October, with a taster evening in October.

Following discussion, Councillor Franklin Owusu-Antwi proposed awarding the Arts Appreciation Group grant aid of £414.00 towards publicity and printing to relaunch the group and premises hire, seconded by Councillor Terri Cullen, carried unanimously.

**4 Announcements by the Chair**

The Chair of Leisure, Youth & Amenities committee, Councillor Tom Aditya apologised for being late to the meeting, since he was held up in traffic on the M4 motorway. He said he don’t like to miss any Council meetings, that is why he took the extra effort to attend.

He commented that there was a community litter pick on Sunday, 16 April, which he attended along with other community members. There was a very good turnout and much litter was collected. Such community actions give the pride of being part of the community and a civic sense.

Councillor Tom Aditya informed the meeting that he had been invited to many events recently such as the Grand Iftar, Eid Celebrations, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, the Easter Hunt in Bradley Stoke and the Oriental Orthodox Easter Sunday programmes in Bristol. He will be attending the Global Nursing Awards ceremony on the International Nurses Day, 12th of May in London. Other councillors are welcome to join him.

The Chair reminded the meeting that this coming Sunday (23rd April) is the St George’s Day, which is England’s National Day and the English flag will be raised at the Jubilee Centre. Invited all to attend the flag hoisting ceremony.

Councillor Tom Aditya also mentioned the ‘Stand to be a Councillor’ programme, which is a non-partisan endeavour he initiated under the auspices of the Bradley Stoke Town Council to help community members to become councillors had a mixed response, however expressed confidence that there will fresh councillors after the upcoming council elections. New ideas coupled with pragmatic experience will help the town council. He said that there are many community projects which have been started, which needs to be fulfilled.

**6.4 Larger Grant Aid**

None

**7 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2023**

**7.1 Adoption of BSTC Youth Work Policy**

Ongoing work – case studies are being referenced to include in the document.

**7.2 Provision of taster sessions at the skatepark**

Covered under minute 8.2

**7.3 Update on BSTC Community Warm Spaces**

The Chair of Committee, Councillor Tom Aditya invited The Town Clerk to present the following report:

The Town Council ran their Community Warm Spaces from 24th November 2022 through to 31st March 2023 across our three activity centres. All sites were closed over the Christmas/New Year break. During the February 2023 half-term, we had the Jubilee Centre and Baileys Court Activity centre open every weekday as there was a long-standing booking at Brook Way Activity Centre.

Local developer, Crest Nicholson got to hear about our Warm Spaces project and subsequently donated £480 for us to purchase 5 new tea urns and some mugs for the three centres. Take up has been relatively low generally, but we did have some residents regularly attending all our sites throughout the week (see Appendix A). We received a total of £1,500 Community Welcome Spaces grant funding (£500 per site) through South Gloucestershire Council (SGC).

The Chair of Committee, Councillor Tom Aditya explained that he was really pleased that these warm spaces had run throughout the winter as it tied in with the provision of resources to assist with the cost of living crisis and also proved a valuable resource for socially isolated and vulnerable members of the community.

Following discussion, Councillor Tom Aditya proposed a vote of thanks to all those who helped facilitate the warm space and also those who made use of them throughout the cold winter months, seconded by Councillor Terri Cullen, carried unanimously.

**7.4 Possible Memorial Garden near Brook Way Activity Centre**

Ongoing project

**8 Matters within the scope of the Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee**

**8.1 Bradley Stoke in Bloom (BSIB) update by Steering Group**

The Chair of Committee, Councillor Tom Aditya invited the representative from Bradley Stoke in Bloom to present a verbal update.

The representative explained that there has been no progress on the granting of planting licences from SGC. Councillor Terri Cullen is now going to take this forward to see if she can get any more information in her capacity as the Town Council representative on the BSIB committee. The planters at the entrances to the town will be repainted once they are dry enough and they have been freshly planted for the spring.

Town Council staff will look at the area where the pigeons roost above the shutter at Brook Way Activity Centre to see if a deterrent could be installed, after first establishing whether the pigeons are actually nesting or just roosting. If nesting, no remedial work will be carried out until after the pigeons have vacated the nests. The pigeon droppings deter people from taking herbs etc. from the community herb garden planters in that location.

The WECA Pollinator Fund application will be submitted in the next couple of days and the Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group has offered to match fund.

The Chair thanked the representative for the update.

**8.2 Youth Development & Participation Worker (YDPW) update by Graham Baker**

The Chair, Councillor Tom Aditya invited Graham Baker, Youth Development & Participation Worker to present the following report:

**Headline news since last LYA Committee report (20th February 2023).**

* **Youth work sessions delivered:** since the last report, we have continued to **deliver four core youth work sessions per week**.The sessions have taken place at the skatepark, the Jubilee Centre and Jubilee Hardcourts. All the core sessions continued to be popular and well attended. In addition, we have engaged and supported young people and parents/ carers outside of the core sessions. The Girls & Young Women’s Project also participated in the Bird Mosaic (see below for more detail on the above).
* **Multi Agency liaison, meetings, and training:** this reporting period has been particularly busy with positive engagement and liaison with a range of agencies (see below for more detail).
* **Youth Work and NYA Covid guidance (Readiness Level Green):** we continue to maintain a ‘Covid responsible’ approach during our youth work sessions, including, ventilating spaces, and encouraging use of hand sanitiser, etc.

**Our recent and planned youth work delivery is highlighted below:**

* **Girls’ Project youth work sessions**:The sessions continue to be well attended and have included an influx of some new members. As usual the sessions offer a safe space and a range of activities, discussions, and support. We promote the Girls Project using closed group Instagram and this helps inform/ remind people of upcoming sessions, any specific focus, and future projects as well as help supportively signposting to organisations or useful information. There continues to be support for individuals &/or small groups outside of the formal session. Two members will be doing their July school work experience placements with us. The Girls Project contributed to the recent Bird Mosaic.
* **Skatepark building and outreach youth work sessions:** we have continued to deliverat least **two core skatepark youth work sessions per week throughout this reporting period.** However, due to extreme wet weather, we have occasionally delivered an **additional session at the skatepark** instead of the outdoor Jubilee session (see below). In addition, when attending the site for various reasons, we regularly provide extra ad hoc support and/ or engagement, with young people and the wider community.

As previously reported, the skatepark sessions attract both regular skatepark users and young people who come mainly for the youth work sessions and a safe, supportive, social space. This continues to be evidenced by good attendance on rainy and/ or very cold nights when the skatepark itself is not in use. Importantly, with recent periods of cold weather, we have provided a warm space, copious hot chocolate, cheese toasties and our Fareshare (recycled food) offer.

**Action:** suggest we send a letter of thanks to Tesco (Hatchet Road Branch) for their continued support of twice weekly food donations (Fareshare scheme) that greatly benefit our youth work sessions.

* **Jubilee Hardcourt youth work sessions:** these sessions offer the opportunity for informal engagement in sporting activities (basically a kick about or a chance to have a go at tennis, frisbee, etc), hot chocolate, occasional BBQs, etc. Unfortunately, due to some continued cold and/or wet weather during this period, on occasion, as an alternative, we have provided additional sessions at the Skatepark building.As with all our sessions, we offer an environment for support, discussion and challenge on numerous topics, issues, lifestyle choices, and anti-social behaviours. We also offer support and activities outside of the formal sessions, including supportive signposting, advocacy, etc (see one to one below). We are also currently organising some sports sessions/ games with other local youth groups from the youth partnership, on additional nights to our usual sessions.
* **Occasional detached and outreach youth work** with young people in the Jubilee Centre area, Willowbrook, etc. We continue a limited amount of outreach sessions. As mentioned previously, detached, outreach and project youth work sessions will increase in frequency when we recruit additional part team sessional youth workers.
* **One to one support:** 1-2-1 / small group work has continued throughout this period, including support for parents/ carers. This work can cover a wide range of issues including, liaison with parents/ carers, peer conflict, informal counselling, bereavement, mental health and well-being, college placements, NEET, CV writing support, references, etc.
* **Additional youth work activities:** we are currently organising our usual Skatepark Competition/Jam as part of the slimmed down Bradley Stoke Festival. This will be on Saturday 17th June and, alongside the usual comps, will include our popular Street Art activities (normally held on the main festival site). As usual, young people are getting involved with the planning, promotion, and delivery. As mentioned, we have upcoming school work experience placements and had a recent meeting with the deputy head of BSCS about other possible collaborative working.

**Scooter coaching/ mentoring at the skatepark:** we are also currently exploring the setting up of scooter coaching at the skatepark including identifying someone to deliver the sessions, appropriate insurance cover, equipment and other associated costs.

* **Partnership and multi-agency working:** This period has been particularly busy and productive with a range of positive meetings and developments, that will help with communications and potentially actions, around a range of issues, including ASB and future joint working. The YD&PW is now part of the Community Safety Multi Agency Meetings (2 x meetings during this reporting period) and also attended a Police VRU (Violence Reduction Unit) partnership event.

In addition, BSTC hosted a local stakeholders meeting involving the local police, Community Safety, the Willow Brook, MacDonald’s, Leisure Centre and BSCS. It is hoped that one of the outcomes will lead to the creation of a local crime reduction partnership. We also participated in a local Job Fair at the Willow Brook, which also provided an excellent networking opportunity.

Productive meetings have also been held with the head teacher of Pathways (Pupil Referral Unit) and the deputy head of BSCS and again, the possibility of future collaborative working was explored.

BSTC officers have also been meeting with WECIL and SGC about becoming a ‘Disability Confident’ organisation. We have continued to be an active member of the South Glos youth work partnership and have met both virtually and face to face, with our SG partners. The focus involves managing our external funding contract (currently subject to a retendering process with the new contract commencing April 2024), acting as a consultative body, exploring opportunities, including other funding, sharing ideas, for mutual support and to plan and deliver staff training. The partnership meetings also offer a chance to liaise and/or meet with other agencies.

* **Staff training, development, and recruitment**: During this period the YD&PW has engaged with a range of training, including a Disability Equality Awareness refresher, a ‘pop up’ Violence Against Women session and a ‘Mankind’ training session (looking at ‘Toxic’ masculinity: unfortunately a very current issue among a minority of boys and young men).

In addition, the YD&PW was recently a group facilitator for a SGC Town & Parish Council consultation event, sharing with T&PC’s our model of youth work practice.

As previously reported, there continues to be recruitment challenges across the South Glos Youth Work Partnership.

* **Strategic lead on other current & evolving projects.**
* **Development & review of Youth Work Policies & Procedures.**
* **Reporting, evaluating & data collection:** including regular reporting to SGC on SG Youth Offer funding.

Following discussion, Councillor Tom Aditya proposed that £1,750 is allocated for Kings Ramps (who have supported the Town Council festivals over many years) to once again, support this year’s Community Festival activities at the skatepark on Saturday 17th June 2023 (this will include the provision of professional rider demonstrations, hosting the skatepark competition and provision of prizes etc.) nominal code N/C5500, seconded by Councillor Terri Cullen, carried unanimously.

Councillors also agreed to send a letter of thanks to letter of thanks to Tesco’s store (Hatchet Road Branch) for their continued support of twice weekly food donations (Fareshare scheme) that greatly benefit the town council youth work sessions. It was felt that weight would be added to the letter of thanks if it was signed by both the Chair of Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee and the Mayor/Chair of Council.

It was mentioned that young people regularly take home the food surplus (bread, cakes etc.) donated to the Town Council through the Fareshare Scheme, for their families. This donated food, along with the hot chocolate, cheese toasties etc. supplied by the Town Council has provided an invaluable source of warmth and nutrition to a large number of young people throughout the winter.

Councillor Tom Aditya expressed his pleasure to receive the update that the Skate Park beginners training sessions, which he proposed earlier is soon going to become a reality. He said that such a programme it will help many beginners to use the skate park confidently and due diligently.

**8.3 Update to BSTC Grant Awarding Policy**

Documentation circulated

Following discussion, Councillor Ben Randles proposed updates to the BSTC Grant Awarding Policy as circulated to take out the references to youth grant aid as this is now combined within the main grant aid, seconded by Councillor Tom Aditya, carried unanimously.

**9 Date of next meeting**

Monday 19th June 2023 at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Tom Aditya mentioned that this was the last meeting of this committee in this civic year and expressed thanks to all.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

**APPENDIX A**

**Community Warm Spaces Attendance Record (24th November 2022 – 31st March 2023**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **w/c 21/11/22** | **w/c 28/11/22** | **w/c 05/12/22** | **w/c 12/12/22** | **w/c 19/12/22** | **w/c 26/12/22** | **w/c 02/01/23** | **w/c 09/01/23** | **w/c 16/01/23** | **w/c 23/01/23** | **w/c 30/01/23** | **w/c 06/02/23** | **Feb Half term – see table below** | **w/c 20/02/23** | **w/c 27/02/23** | **w/c 06/03/23** | **w/c 13/03/23** | **w/c 20/03/23** | **w/c 27/03/23** |
| **Monday**  Brook Way  0900 to 1530 | NA | NA | NA | 4 | 3 | Closed | Closed | 5 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 4 |  | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| **Tuesday**  Cherry Room  Baileys Court  1130 to 1700 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Closed | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 |  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| **Wednesday**  Brook Way  0900 to 1630 | NA | NA | 4 | 1 | 3 | Closed | 5 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 5 |  | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| **Thursday**  Cedar Room  Jubilee Centre  0900 to 1700 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Closed | 1 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 |  | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| **Friday**  Brook Way  0900 to 1530 | NA | NA | 4 | 4 | Closed | Closed | 3 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 3 |  | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| **Weekly total** | **0** | **2** | **9** | **9** | **8** | **N/A** | **9** | **12** | **23** | **26** | **19** | **18** |  | **32** | **20** | **22** | **17** | **24** | **19** |

**February Half-Term week**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **13/02/23** | **14/02/23** | **15/02/23** | **16/02/23** | **17/02/23** |
| Apple Room  Baileys Court  0930 to 1630 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Woodlands Suite  Jubilee Centre  0930 to 1630 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| **Weekly total** | **2** | **5** | **2** | **4** | **2** |